

Meeting Recap
Kapolei Toastmasters (KTM)
Thursday, May 15, 2014
12:00-1:00PM
Kapolei Hale, Conference Room C
Theme: "Graduations"
(Submitted by Joyce Bullion, Kapolei Toastmasters, with edits from
James Fu, Kapolei Toastmasters)

1. Opening of Meeting:

- President James Fu , ACB, CL opened the meeting and we followed his lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- James welcomed 17 people which consisted of 12 members and 5 guests. Members were: Alex, Jerome, Irobela, Jared, Guy, Owen, Rose, Joyce, Holly, Mariea, James, Sara. Guests were: Tanya Mendoza, Eddie Joseph, Cheryl Steimel, Debra Werner and daughter Claryssa Krzyska.
- James Fu, ACB, CL was the **TMOD**:

2. Education Session:

- **TMOD:** James Fu, ACB, CL Introduced:
 - **Time Keeper:** Guy Kidder, TM, and
 - **AH/Grammarian/Word of the Day:** Irobela Wreagh, CL, was surprised to be asked to be AH/Grammarian/Word of the Day at the last minute so her word of the day was "SURPRISE".

3. Featured Speakers:

- **Featured Speaker #1:** Holly Holloway, CC, CL delivered a speech from Project No. 2, "Leave Them With a Smile" from the advanced manual: "Humorously Speaking". Holly's speech title was: "Be a Buddy, Not a Bully". Holly started out talking about her experience in

first grade when a new book called: “Rowena the Laughing Hyena” was read. Since Holly’s real name is Rowena, the kids bullied her by calling her a hyena, and she gracefully responded by laughing like a hyena. She then went on to share her experiences when she was a Health Aid at Kalakaua Middle School with keiki who were bullied. She would tell them to report it and get a buddy. She then told a story about a boy who cleared out his locker and took all his books home one day from school. On the way home, a boy tripped him and he dropped all his books. A nice young man helped him pick up his books and offered his friendship. The two young men then went on to be friends and played video games together. The young man took all his books back to school the next day. He explained later to his new friend that he had planned to kill himself that night. He had gotten a buddy. Holly ended with sharing a funny story about a husband and wife that bullied each other during their divorce. The husband planted shrimp and caviar in the curtain rod and when the house stunk and the house wouldn’t sell, he offered to buy back the house –real cheap. She sold the house to him and gladly moved out and because she was a bully, she retaliated by taking the curtain rods with her. We all ended up smiling. Mission accomplished! Great speech Holly!

- **Speaker 2:** Eddie Joseph, DTM, gave a speech from Project 4-“The Touching Story” from the advanced manual on Storytelling. His speech title was: “I Wanted to Cry”. Eddie started out by including the meeting theme and mentioned he almost did not graduate from High School and never did graduate from college. When Eddie achieved his Distinguished Toastmaster

Award (DTM), this was a really big accomplishment in his life. Then Eddie talked about an incident that occurred when he lived in Palm Springs, California (the City of Swimming Pools). Eddie was lounging near his swimming pool, enjoying his newspaper and drink when looked up and realized that his 2 year old daughter had disappeared in the pool. He jumped into the pool and scooped up his little girl from the bottom of the pool. His daughter remarked "I didn't drown, Daddy!" Eddie was a Private Investigator and his job was to investigate accidents. He felt terrible! One day he picked up a newspaper and on the front page was a story about a 2 year old boy who had drowned in a swimming pool. Eddie knew this family well. The father was his friend, Tom. Tom's little boy had squeezed through the dog door and drowned in the family jacuzzi. The tragedy weighed heavily on the family and soon the couple had marital problems. After this, the wife was diagnosed with cancer and soon died. This event really touched Eddie's heart and motivated him to action. In Cuchillo County, there were 15 drownings that year. Eddie was stirred to action and made a short video to raise everyone's level of consciousness and to create a sense of urgency about this problem. He then played his video for us. He concluded that he owes his proactive actions to God. Eddie stressed how important it is for each of us to make a difference. WOW! Awesome speech, Eddie!

- **Speaker 3:** Alex Agsalud, TM, gave a speech from Project No. 5 - Your Body Speaks, from the CC manual. The title of his speech was: "The World Never Stops Spinning". Alex had an excellent prop: a spinning globe (the world) (see picture) that he purchased from NASA.

It spun continuously throughout his speech and it appeared that there was nothing holding the globe while it was spinning. Alex said that there were people partying in Las Vegas and at the same time, children were starving to death (every 10 seconds, a child dies of starvation), human trafficking, and violence. He then paused to say there are a lot of positive things happening too-like people drilling water wells in areas that lack them, medical personnel and human rights activists helping those in poverty and those being abused. People are trying to stop human trafficking and violence all over the globe. The sun rises every day in the East and sets every evening in the West. Life does go on. Alex also stressed how important it is for each of us to make a difference.

4. Table Topics:

- **Table Topics Master:** Joyce Bullion, TM, followed the Theme and talked about Graduation. She began talking about the different types of graduations-kindergarten, grade school, high school and college-also graduating from life itself and retiring or passing on. She called on a volunteer to answer the table topic question.
- **Cheryl Steimel, TM** volunteered and was asked the question: Graduation Quote: “Do not go where the path may lead, instead go where there is no path and leave a trail and leave a trail”...what does that mean to you? Cheryl gave a quick answer that she is moving to the Big Island in a few days and she has never lived there before. When she moved to Oahu 2 years ago from Michigan, she was going where she had not lived before. There are new adventures to be explored and

she anticipates what awaits her so she can blaze new trails. We will truly miss Cheryl.

- **Rose Martinez, ACB, CL** was asked: Sometimes graduations take their caps off and have a message written on their heads. What message would you put on your head if you had the opportunity? Rose talked about the struggle to get her master's degree. Rose said she would put a message on her head which said "I made it!" She talked about her determination and her sacrifice to accomplish her graduation for her master's degree.
- The third speaker was **Owen Tamamoto, ACB ALB**. Owen volunteered and his question was: If you could choose to graduate today from something, what would you choose to graduate from? Owen said he will soon turn 61 years old and his next graduation would be from this life, but he does not want to retire from being young at heart. Owen has a playful spirit and we all love it....

5. Evaluation Session:

- **Evaluator #1:** Jerome Ababa, CC evaluated Holly Holloway, CC CL. Jerome mentioned that Holly had a great subject matter. Her speech was flawless and sound. She met the purpose of her speech with flying colors. Jerome suggested that she use effective pauses between different thought processes and before her punch line. He said he looks forward to hearing more from Holly.
- **Evaluator #2:** Sara Toyama was Eddie's evaluator. Sara made note of how Eddie started by weaving his speech into the theme and said he did not graduate from college so achieving his DTM was a significant achievement. Sara brought to light of how well he expressed his feelings.

Eddie told his personal story and of how it motivated him later to action for the Drowning Coalition. Eddie did well to express his compassion for his friend's tragedy and for by relaying of how this event tore the parent's relationship apart and how the mother died from cancer. Sara could not think of any suggestions for improvement.

- **Evaluator #3:** Joyce Bullion, TM, evaluated Alex and gave kudos for the spinning world. She said his speech was well thought out and organized. The spinning world and thoughts of what is happening all over the planet was very vivid. It was so easy to visualize what his point was. The world does continue to spin. Suggestions for improvement were for him to show his emotions more and use direct eye contact to connect better with the audience.

6. Reports:

- **Timekeeper:** Guy gave a thorough report. Everyone stayed within their allotted time. Great job Guy!
- **Grammarians/Ah Counter:** Irobela gave an accurate report noting there were few grammatical errors. Great job, Irobela. We all appreciated you stepping up to the plate when needed.

7. General Evaluator:

- Mariea Vaughan, CTM said the speeches were wonderful and the meeting had a good variation of speakers. She remarked how table topics were done well and that is was good that different views were presented on graduation. The room was set up well and we were pressed for time and it was done well.

8. Election of Officers:

- Since we had 12 Kapolei Toastmaster members at this meeting and had quorum, James Fu led a business meeting to elect new officers for the upcoming year. We had a candidate for each office and no new nominations were offered. The club voted on each nomination and all were unanimously elected to their office. For President Holly Holloway, CC CL; VP Education: James Fu, ACB, CL; VP Membership: Alex Aagsalud, TM; VP Public Relations: Joyce Bullion, TM; Secretary/Treasurer: Sara Toyama, TM; Sergeant-At-Arms: Jerome Ababa, CC; Special Assistant to the President: Kim Abe, TM. Jerome wanted to do a salsa dance but unfortunately we were short on time (James took it seriously! LOL). All newly elected members agreed to serve. Kim was not in attendance but had agreed in advance to serve.

9. Announcements/Adjournment:

- James announced that Libra Forde will be at the Mililani Toastmaster meeting this Monday May 19 at 7:30PM and that James, Joyce and Holly will be attending. All are invited. (see attached flyer).
- Our next KTM Meeting is May 22 and will be in room 577B of the State Building. The theme is “Honoring Libra Forde” and we will have cake and ice cream to celebrate Libra’s District 49 International Speech Contest victory.